

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action mailed August 22, 2006, prior to preparing this response. Currently claims 1-59 are pending in the application, wherein claims 1-6, 18-20, 26, 31, 41-43, 58 and 59 have been rejected and claims 7-17, 21-25, 32-40 and 44-57 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated as otherwise allowable. Claims 1, 7-10, 13, 18, 21-24, 26-30, 32-34, 41-42, 44 and 49-58 have been amended, and claims 31 and 59 have been cancelled with this paper. No new matter has been introduced with the amendments. Favorable consideration of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

As an initial matter, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the favorable consideration of claims 7-17, 21-25, 32-40 and 44-57. Claims 54-57 have been amended into independent form to include limitations of underlying claims in view of the Examiner's indication of the allowability of these claims. Favorable consideration of these claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 18-20, 26, 31, 41-43, 58 and 59 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Cano et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,893,451. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 has been amended to include select limitations of claim 7 which was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicants believe claim 1, as amended, places claim 1 in condition for allowance as Cano seems to at least fail to teach these limitations of claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 is respectfully requested. As claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance, all claims depending from claim 1 are, likewise, believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 26 has been amended into independent form. Applicants respectfully assert Cano at least fails to teach the limitation recited in claim 26 that "the suspension strut coupled, at least in part, to the guide wire or the filter wire, such that at least a portion of the at least two sections of the strand of wire proximal of the articulation point extend through the lumen of the coil." Dissimilarly to that which is claimed in claim 26, Cano simply states "[t]he proximal end of control arms 26 are connected to coil of wire 66 at a junction 68 adjacent one end of coil of wire 66." Cano, at column 18, lines 8-10. Therefore, it seems as though Cano at least fails to teach these limitations of claim 26.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested. As claim 26 is believed to be in condition for allowance, all claims depending from claim 26 are, likewise, believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 32 has been amended into independent form including the limitations of claim 31. Consequently, claim 31 has been cancelled and claims 41-42 have been amended to depend from claim 32. As claim 32 was indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form, Applicant respectfully asserts claim 32 is currently in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested. Moreover, all claims depending from claim 32 are, likewise, believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 49 has been amended into independent form. For reasons similar to those described above regarding the allowability of claim 26, Applicants respectfully assert claim 49 is in condition for allowance. As claim 49 is believed to be in condition for allowance, all claims depending from claim 49 are, likewise, believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 58, as currently amended includes the limitation “wherein the proximal portion of the at least two sections of the strand of wire includes one or more regions which are stamped flat.” Similar limitations may be found in claims 22-24 objected to by the Examiner. As Cano seems to at least fail to teach this limitation of claim 58, Applicants respectfully assert claim 58 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cano et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,893,451, in view of Macoviak et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,361,545. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Claim 6 depends from claim 1, and includes significant additional limitations. For at least the reasons stated above, Cano fails to teach that which is recited in claim 1. Macoviak seems to fail to remedy the shortcomings of Cano. It follows that a *prima facie* case of obviousness regarding claim 6 has not been established with the cited combination. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested. It is submitted that all pending claims are currently in condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance in due course is anticipated. If a telephone conference might be of assistance, please contact the undersigned attorney at 612.677.9050.

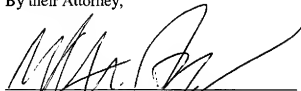
Respectfully submitted,

Jackson Demond et al.

By their Attorney,

Date:

Dec 4, 2006



Glenn M. Seager, Reg. No. 36,926
CROMPTON, SEAGER & TUFTE, LLC
1221 Nicollet Avenue, Suite 800
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403-2420
Tel: (612) 677-9050